
SENATE BILL 5169

State of Washington

60th Legislature

2007 Regular Session

By Senators Shin, Kastama, Zarelli, Pridemore, Haugen, Jacobsen, Kohl-Welles, Rasmussen, Delvin and Roach

Read first time 01/11/2007. Referred to Committee on Economic Development, Trade & Management.

1 AN ACT Relating to the Washington international relations
2 foundation; adding a new section to chapter 42.52 RCW; adding a new
3 chapter to Title 44 RCW; creating a new section; and providing an
4 expiration date.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that:

7 (a) Washington is one of the most trade-dependent states in the
8 nation;

9 (b) Washington benefits from the exchange of economic, educational,
10 and cultural information and ideas among government leaders and other
11 citizens of foreign countries and members of the Washington legislature
12 and other citizens of our state;

13 (c) The participation of Washington state legislators in inbound
14 and outbound trade missions enables the legislature to craft
15 legislation that better addresses trade issues and fosters better
16 understanding between the people of Washington and the people of other
17 nations;

18 (d) Economic and business missions to foreign countries often have

1 the effect of bringing investment and jobs to Washington through
2 person-to-person contact and networking; and

3 (e) Washington benefits from hosting visitors from other nations to
4 foster business and cultural relationships.

5 (2) It is the intent of the legislature that the state increase its
6 support for trade, cultural, and economic exchanges that contribute to
7 the economic development of our state. It is further the intent of the
8 legislature that the state facilitate and encourage these exchanges
9 through the evaluation, organization, and execution of missions.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The definitions in this section apply
11 throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

12 (1) "Government leader" means an elected official of the government
13 of a foreign nation, including officials of national, state, or
14 provincial governments.

15 (2) "Inbound mission" means a trip on which government leaders are
16 invited to travel to the state of Washington by the Washington state
17 legislature in order to learn about the culture, economy, or
18 governmental structure of the state of Washington.

19 (3) "Mission" means either an inbound or an outbound mission.

20 (4) "Outbound mission" means a trip on which members of the
21 Washington state legislature are invited to travel to a particular
22 nation by a national, provincial, or state government in order to learn
23 about the culture, economy, or governmental structure of the nation,
24 province, or state that extended the invitation.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) The Washington international relations
26 foundation is organized as a private, nonprofit corporation in
27 accordance with chapter 24.03 RCW and this section. The purpose of the
28 foundation is to provide assistance to the Washington state legislature
29 in furthering the exchange of economic, educational, and cultural
30 information between government leaders and other citizens of foreign
31 countries and members of the Washington state legislature and other
32 citizens of Washington.

33 (2) The Washington international relations foundation is empowered
34 to plan and organize inbound and outbound missions and implement
35 inbound missions. The foundation may assist in hosting inbound

1 missions and preparing for outbound missions that exchange information
2 relating to government, trade and commerce, agriculture, tourism,
3 technology, environment, and the arts.

4 (3) The Washington international relations foundation shall
5 coordinate with appropriate agencies of the executive branch to ensure
6 that missions help present the state's trade goals in a manner
7 consistent with executive branch policies.

8 (4) The Washington international relations foundation may solicit
9 charitable donations, gifts, or grants from private or public sources.
10 The Washington international relations foundation may receive funds
11 from the legislative international trade account created in RCW
12 43.15.050.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** (1) The articles of incorporation of the
14 Washington international relations foundation must be drawn up by a
15 committee consisting of the following members:

16 (a) Two senators from each of the two major political parties in
17 the Washington state senate, appointed by the president of the senate;

18 (b) Two representatives from each of the two major political
19 parties in the Washington state house of representatives, appointed by
20 the speaker of the house of representatives; and

21 (c) Three private citizens, representing organizations concerned
22 with international trade.

23 (2) The speaker of the house of representatives and the president
24 of the senate must jointly appoint the chair of the committee.

25 (3) The committee shall write the articles of incorporation for the
26 Washington international relations foundation within ninety days after
27 the effective date of this section.

28 (4) The committee shall appoint the initial directors of the
29 Washington international relations foundation as well as the initial
30 officers of the foundation within thirty days after the articles of
31 incorporation are completed.

32 (5) The committee must disband within thirty days of completing the
33 tasks assigned to it in this section.

34 (6) This section expires June 30, 2008.

35 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** (1) Upon receiving an official invitation or
36 proposal to develop an inbound or outbound mission, the Washington

1 international relations foundation shall contact the governmental
2 entity extending the invitation or proposal and determine the
3 following:

- 4 (a) The length of the proposed mission;
- 5 (b) The number of legislators or government leaders invited to
6 participate;
- 7 (c) The benefit to the state of Washington;
- 8 (d) The number and type of businesses invited to participate, if
9 any;
- 10 (e) Whether a reciprocal mission is expected; and
- 11 (f) Other facts pertinent to the planning and organization of the
12 mission.

13 (2) Prior to the departure of each mission, the Washington
14 international relations foundation must create and release to the
15 public a goals statement for the mission. The statement must include,
16 but is not limited to:

- 17 (a) A statement of the mission's objectives, dates, and expected
18 itinerary; and
- 19 (b) A description of the type of knowledge, background, and
20 experience held by a delegation member that might provide assistance
21 to the mission.

22 (3) At the conclusion of each mission, a report must be prepared
23 and made available to the public that includes, but is not limited to
24 the following:

- 25 (a) How the mission achieved or made progress towards achieving the
26 goals stated before the mission;
- 27 (b) The names and titles of all participants of the mission;
- 28 (c) The names and titles of officials visited during the mission;
- 29 (d) A detailed itinerary of the mission;
- 30 (e) The cost of the mission borne by the Washington international
31 relations foundation; and
- 32 (f) The approximate costs of the mission borne by individuals.

33 (4) Following completion of the mission, upon request, each
34 participating legislator or government leader is encouraged to provide
35 feedback concerning the mission and its results to the Washington
36 international relations foundation in a timely manner.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** (1) The Washington international relations
2 foundation may expend funds in conjunction with meetings, activities,
3 or events within the state of Washington that are sponsored by the
4 foundation and are attended by, among other persons, government leaders
5 and citizens of foreign countries who are making official visits to the
6 Washington state legislature. Funds may also be expended for the
7 purchase of appropriate gifts for presentation to government leaders
8 and citizens of foreign countries who are receiving official visits
9 from, or are making official visits to, the Washington state
10 legislature.

11 (2) The funds of the Washington international relations foundation
12 may be used to help organize outbound missions, but may not be used to
13 pay for the execution of outbound missions.

14 (3) The Washington international relations foundation may not use
15 funds to pay the expenses, excluding the cost of food and beverage,
16 transportation, or lodging, of any director, officer, or employee of
17 the state of Washington, or to pay any honorarium to any director,
18 officer, or employee of the state of Washington.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** The Washington international relations
20 foundation may not carry on propaganda, attempt to influence state or
21 federal legislation, or participate or intervene in any political
22 campaign, including the distribution of statements, on behalf of any
23 candidate for public office.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** A new section is added to chapter 42.52 RCW
25 to read as follows:

26 When soliciting charitable gifts, grants, or donations solely for
27 the benefit of the Washington international relations foundation
28 created under chapter 44.-- RCW (sections 1 through 3 and 5 through 7
29 of this act), state officers and state employees are presumed to be in
30 compliance with the solicitation and receipt of gift provisions of RCW
31 42.52.140.

32 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 9.** Sections 1 through 3 and 5 through 7 of this
33 act constitute a new chapter in Title 44 RCW.

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